



# Sheltowee Trace Section 33

Stearns District • Daniel Boone National Forest • Kentucky



**Stearns District Office**  
3320 US 27 North  
Whitley City, KY 42653  
(606) 376-5323



## Directions to Trail

Section 33: From Whitley City follow take KY 700 west. Follow the sign to Yahoo Falls Day Use Area. From the trailhead there follow the signs down the metal stairs to the base of the bluff to connect with the Sheltowee Trace.

## Who's In Charge?

The Sheltowee Trace passes through land and facilities managed by a variety of agencies. These agencies cooperate with each other and private groups to provide recreation opportunities.

This section of the Sheltowee Trace passes through the Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area, which is managed by the National Park Service.

## Permit Fees

As part of the Recreation Fee Demonstration Program, Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area began requiring backcountry permits and assessing a backcountry permit fee for all overnight stays within the Recreation Area. These fees are assessed only for overnight camping in the backcountry, not for day-use. Permits may be obtained at both the Bandy Creek and Stearns Visitor Centers, the Bandy Creek Campground, Blue Heron Mining Community and Park Headquarters. Contact the National Park Service at 606-376-5073.

Guides like this are available at [fs.usda.gov/dbnf](http://fs.usda.gov/dbnf).  
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## Sheltowee Trace NRT #100, Section 33

This section of the Sheltowee Trace follows the Big South Fork River for 6.8 miles before reaching Yamacraw Bridge. Footing can be precarious around boulders along this section. Be sure to follow the white diamonds and turtle blazes, since connecting trails could be confusing. This section of the trail is very scenic. Allow time for side trips to waterfalls, rock shelters, old home sites, and mines. Watch for the side trails to Lick Creek Falls and Princess Falls. These are worth traveling. Be prepared for fording creeks and climbing boulders as well as facing a few short inclines. Two miles after the trail begins you will reach Alum Ford Boat Ramp and Campground, which is equipped with primitive restrooms, campsites, tables, and grills. There is no treated water source.

Begins:	Yahoo Arch Trail #602	Hiking Difficulty:	Moderate to Difficult
	Yahoo Falls Trail (BSF)	Trail Surface:	Dirt
Ends:	KY 92/ Yamacraw Bridge	Connections:	Lick Creek Trail; Sheltowee Trace, Sections 32 and 34
Length:	6.8 miles	Trail Use:	Hiking
Quad:	Nevelsville; Barthell	Latitude:	36.775187
County:	McCreary	Longitude:	-84.523263
Parking:	Yahoo Falls Day Use Area, KY 92/East side of Yamacraw Bridge		

## About the Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area

The free-flowing Big South Fork of the Cumberland River and its tributaries pass through 90 miles of scenic gorges and valleys containing a wide range of natural and historic features. The area offers a broad range of recreational opportunities including camping, whitewater rafting, kayaking, canoeing, hiking, horseback riding, mountain biking, hunting and fishing. The US Army Corps of Engineers, with its experience in managing river basins, was charged with land acquisition, planning and development of facilities. Now completed, these lands and facilities are operated and maintained by the UDSI National Park Service for the benefit and use of the public.

## Storing Your Food and Trash in Bear Country

Food and trash storage is mandatory, to reduce odors that attract bears. Unless cooking or eating, store your food inside a hardtop vehicle, the trunk of a car or a bear-resistant container. Store your food garbage in the same manner where trash cans are not installed. When camping in the backcountry hang your food at least 10 feet off the ground and four feet away from a tree.



**You are responsible for your own safety.**

All outdoor activities have inherent risks and you may encounter a variety of unexpected and/or dangerous conditions. It is your responsibility to be informed and take precautions. Learn more at [www.fs.usda.gov/r8](http://www.fs.usda.gov/r8)



**U.S. Department of Agriculture - Forest Service**  
**Southern Region - Daniel Boone National Forest**  
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